

PLAIN TALKS

MAY, 1976



PLAIN TALKS

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ABOUT THE COVER

It's not every day your employer buys you two color televisions to watch during the day. The dispatchers in the Baton Rouge Government Street office, however, are that lucky. Last month Gulf States finished testing a computer-aided system for supervising bulk substations from the dispatcher's office. The system included twin four-color televisions which display not network programming but schematic diagrams of bulk substations. The system has the potential for safe and efficient operation. It also solves a critical space problem at Government Street since the Company will no longer have to install bulky supervisory panels each time a new substation is built.



SCADA

(Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition)

Dispatchers in Baton Rouge can now watch TV while they work, thanks to a new computer system for operating substations.

The Baton Rouge dispatchers in the Government Street office have gone modern. The Company just purchased two color televisions for them to watch on duty.

The channels receive neither test patterns, commercials nor Monty Hall. But before you hustle out a TV Guide, the sets also don't receive "All in the Family," Johnny Carson or "Monday Night Football."

Actually, it's pretty boring — though important — programming. The sets display schematic diagrams and operating information a dispatcher needs to know to operate a portion of the division's transmission and distribution system safely and efficiently.

The setup is known as SCADA (pronounced SKAY-dah), an acronym for Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition. A 30-month test with IBM was completed March 31, and Gulf States decided to keep and expand the system.

Before SCADA, dispatchers consulted detailed wall maps, boards or line charts to determine which breaker or switch should be operated during emergency or maintenance operations. If a breaker number was misread or the wrong one operated on the standard supervisory panel, equipment could be damaged or customers' electricity cut off.

"There's no correlation between the schematic diagram and a breaker's position on the old supervisory

panels," said Mike Welch, T&D engineer in Baton Rouge. "Confusion during emergency situations is possible."

The four-color SCADA screen shows a full schematic of the substation as well as of the incoming and outgoing feeders. Each breaker, switch or transformer is identified by number and symbol. Amperage, voltage and wattage readings for each line and transformer are shown in different colors.

Devices closed with a light beam

A dispatcher can see at a glance what piece of equipment should be operated and can control the equipment with a "light cursor" — a pen that shines a beam of light — at the console. A breaker, for example, can be closed just by moving the cursor to the breaker symbol on the screen and pressing the cursor to the protective glass. A second jab selects the close command, and the third jab executes the command.

The complete SCADA system includes the television console; an IBM System 7 process computer; remote sensors and transmitters in the substations; a programmer's keyboard for program changes and troubleshooting; and a logging printer for alarm indications, data printout and timed operating sequences.

The printer can be invaluable.



NEW Engineer Mike Welch demonstrates the operation of the light pen on the SCADA screen. Pressing the pen to the screen operates a device in the field.

The dispatcher's office is notified whenever a device in the field is dangerously close to an overload condition. The dispatcher thus is warned in time to reroute the power, if possible, to save the equipment.

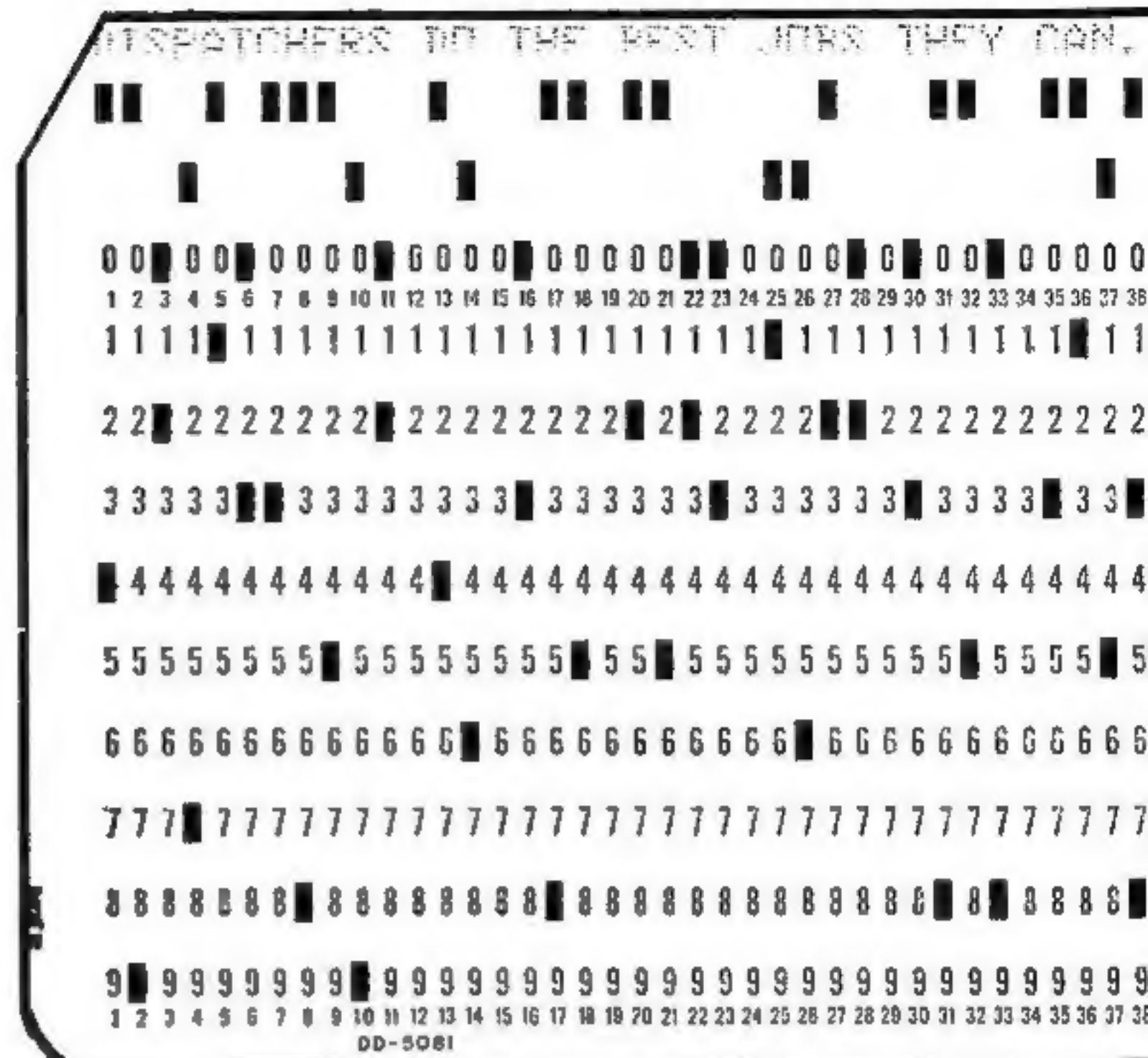
During inclement weather, moreover, the printer would record the sequence of operating events. This information saves time in determining where and when outages occur and which devices have isolated the fault condition. The dispatcher can then determine the proper action needed to correct or accommodate the failure.

Operating the system at higher loading levels can be handled more effectively, since SCADA alarms of potential overload conditions.

'It's a much simpler setup'

"It's a much simpler setup," Welch said of the SCADA system. "During a storm, the dispatchers are constantly running up and down the room looking for blinking lights under the old system.

"With SCADA, the printer will alert them to the trouble spots as they occur."



"Our dispatchers are doing the best job they can," said Dick Smith, supervisor of technical development in the information and data services department. "SCADA will allow them a higher degree of control."

SCADA has been in the planning stages since early 1970, when a feasibility study was initiated with IBM. The companies worked out a test arrangement in Oct., 1973, and equipment was installed at Government Street a year later. The companies agreed upon items SCADA would monitor according to Gulf States' needs. IBM provided programming research, since that firm was testing the possibility of selling similar systems to other utilities.

"Gulf States researched the possibility of monitoring more information than we settled on," Smith said. "We got to look at a lot of features we thought we might want before they were installed."

The Baton Rouge Division was chosen as the site for the SCADA tests because the city was growing fast, and there was insufficient room at Government Street to expand the dispatcher's office.

As the Baton Rouge population (293,451 — 1975 metropolitan area) has grown, the area's T&D system has grown more complex — to 55 supervised substations.

"In the past, we've had dispatchers that had the division's system memorized, it was that simple," Welch said. "But today, the city is so big and the system so complex, you can't depend on memory to run the system."



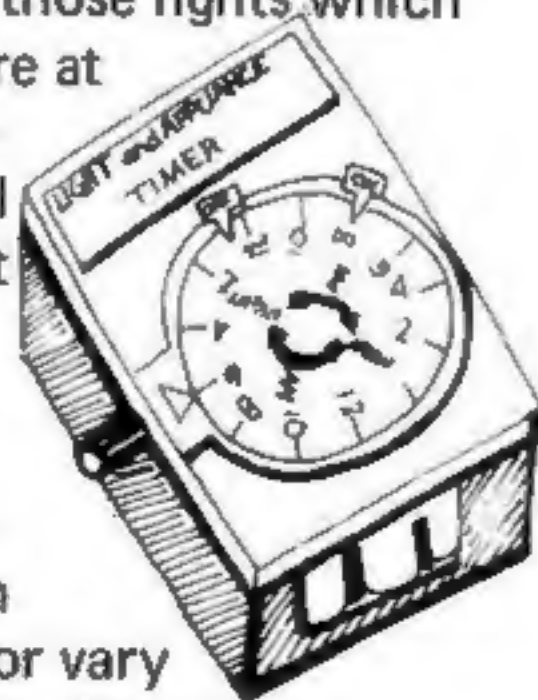
Never give an even

Nearly everyone makes a checklist of items to prepare for and to take on a vacation. The car, camper, boat, motel and travel reservations, proper clothing, personal things.

But have you left your home protected against a possible burglary while you're away?

A crime of opportunity, burglary can be avoided by taking some simple precautions. Even amateur burglars have enough experience to recognize a house that is an easy target. Here's a checklist that shows how to make your home a more difficult job for burglars to spot and break-in.

☐ Make your home look occupied, even though you are away. Leave burning only those lights which would normally be on while you are at home. An inside light burning constantly can invite, rather than ward off, an intruder. During daylight, it can be a signal that no one is home. Electronic timers are convenient devices for turning lights on and off automatically during your absence. To keep from indicating a pattern, have a neighbor vary the lights controlled by the timers and change their intervals of illumination.



☐ Essential to the security of your home is that window and entrances be properly locked. The best door lock is a double-key deadbolt with a one-inch travel. But a good lock is next-to-worthless on light, hollow-core doors. Be sure your doors are solid wood. A common nail can serve as a window stop, preventing a sliding window from being raised during a burglarly attempt. A series of holes can provide for var-

ious ventilation positions. Key-operated window locks are also available.

☐ Locking your garage is very important. An open garage not only offers burglars easy access to your home, but also provides good cover while they work.

☐ Don't leave all drapes, shades and blinds closed. Keep a few partially open to give the appearance of occupancy. Remove from sight, however, any valuables near such windows.

☐ Consider installing a security light, which illuminates your lawn at night. Lights above windows and entrances are another good precaution. "We highly recommend the Gulf States security light," said Lt. Jack McCanne, director of the Beaumont Police Department's Police Public Services Bureau. "Light is proven deterrent to nighttime burglary."

☐ Don't publicize your vacation plans or talk about them in public places. Some burglars specialize in reading newspaper accounts of other people's vacations.

☐ Publicize as little as possible your ownership of valuables.

☐ Put out of sight lawn furniture, bicycles and tools normally stored outside. A few small toys scattered about the yard, however, can give an appearance of occupancy.

☐ Unkept lawns, overflowing mailboxes and front door collections of newspapers advertise your absence. Arrange for lawn care. Stop mail and newspaper deliveries.

☐ Inform neighbors of your absence so they can be extra alert. Give at least one neighbor a key to your home and ask that the positions of drapes,

a burglar break



Lock it or lose it

Typical locks for homes include (clockwise from upper left) the double-key deadbolt door lock, double-door anchors, window locks and window pins.

shades and blinds be varied from time to time. Have someone remove circulars thrown onto your lawn while you are gone.

☐ Notify your local police of how long you will be away, who has a key to your home and how you can be reached during your vacation. Officers will

provide special attention to your premises while you are away.

For short or weekend trips, some of the above measures are not practical. But other methods can be used to make your home look occupied.

☐ Leave a light on or a stereo, radio or television playing — or connected to an electronic timer. A bathroom light is a good one to leave burning for short intervals, since if a burglar calls your home and receives no answer, he cannot be sure no one is home.

☐ Never leave notes which could tell a burglar when the home will be unoccupied.

☐ Locking windows and doors is even a good idea when you are just out working in the yard. Some thieves roam neighborhoods looking not only for empty homes, but also for homes where residents are outside and have left the house unguarded. These thieves specialize in taking small items — such as purses, money and concealable valuables. Many times the loss is not discovered until later. Even then owners may believe the property is mislaid and do not call police.

Burglar-proofing your home cannot be absolute. But many things can be done to discourage intruders and to protect your property. Most are well within the capabilities of your family.

(The recommended measures above were provided by the Beaumont Police Department. Special thanks are extended to Lt. Jack McCanne, director, and Judy Hammond, media coordinator, of the department's Police Public Services Bureau. Miss Hammond is the daughter of Gladys Hammond, a GSU executive secretary.)

Chest squeeze

If someone is choking to death on food, do you slap him on the back, reach into his mouth and try to dislodge the food, use a device to extract the food, or do nothing?

The wrong answer is to do nothing.

Death from choking can occur within four minutes, which, in most cases, is not enough time to obtain professional help. So the burden of lifesaving usually falls upon a non-professional.

What, then, is the correct method of dislodging food from the throat?

As of yet, there is no one right answer.

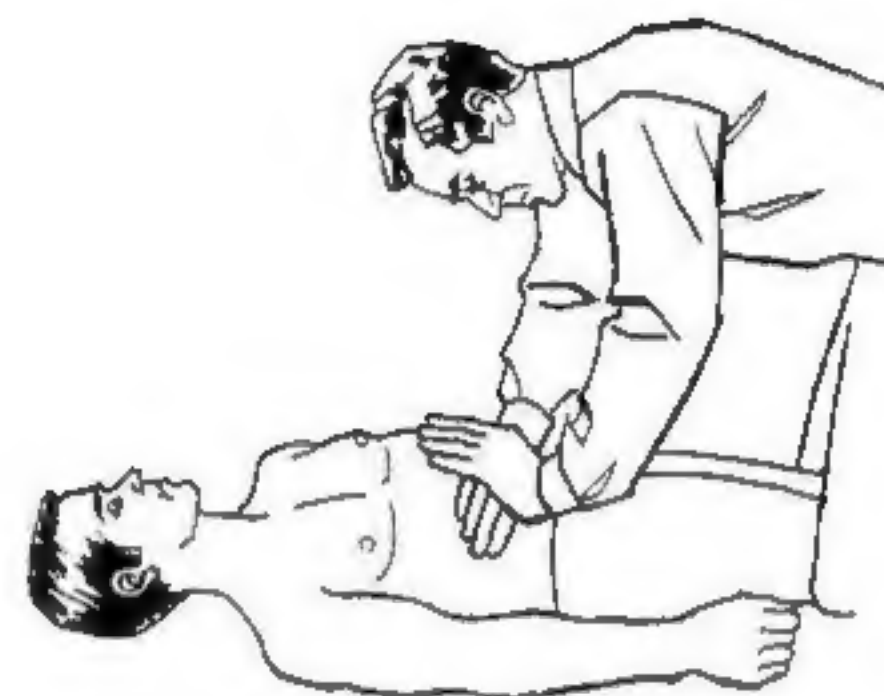
But a new method of dislodging food stuck in the throat is proving very effective and gaining wide acceptance. The method is usually referred to as the "Heimlich maneuver," after Dr. Henry J. Heimlich, Director of Surgery at Cincinnati's Jewish Hospital, who is credited with developing the method.

Like uncorking a bottle

The "Heimlich maneuver" is based upon the fact that there is always some air in the lungs — as much as a pint after exhaling. It relies upon the principle that forcing this air upward will expel the obstruction, much like a cork from a champagne bottle.

The maneuver is performed by standing behind the choking victim and putting both your arms around him. His head, arms, and upper torso should hang forward. Make a fist of one of your hands and grasp it with your other hand. With your thumbs slightly above the victim's navel and below the rib cage, pressing up rapidly against the victim's abdomen will force the diaphragm up and compress the lungs. This should force the food up and out.

The maneuver can also be applied on a prone victim lying face up by straddling the victim's thighs and, with the heel of your left hand pressing against the back of your right hand, pushing forward into his abdomen just above the belt. It is important to make sure that once the obstruction is expelled, it is not inhaled again. If possible, a second person should be present to remove the ejected obstruction.



These two drawings indicate the proper positions for applying the "Heimlich Maneuver" for relieving a choking victim of an obstruction in his throat. The drawing on the facing page shows the recommended "universal signal" for choking victims. Thus the emergency would not be mistaken for a heart attack.

A person can also use the technique on himself by pressing against his own abdomen using his fist, the back of a chair, the end of a table, the rim of a wash basin, or anything else that will serve the same purpose.

The maneuver can be performed on children and even infants, but the amount of pressure should be modified. The child can be placed across the knee so that the leg presses the child's abdomen while pressure is applied upwards along the lower part of the child's back.

Is it a heart attack?

A concern of the AMA is that the maneuver may be applied in situations that "mimic or simulate choking, such as a seizure or heart attack." Thus, it is important to know the symptoms of choking as opposed to those of heart attack, seizure, and other such emergencies. This stresses the importance of proper training.

One way to distinguish a choking victim from a heart attack victim is the inability of a choking victim to speak. A heart attack victim can usually speak. Dr. Heimlich has also proposed that a univer-

sal signal be used by persons choking. By grasping his own neck between the thumb and index finger of one hand, a victim can signal to the people around him that he is choking.

A company off-the-job program on choking should include not only emergency procedures, but preventive measures as well. Too much alcohol, bad table manners, laughing while eating, failure to cut food into reasonably small bits, and ill-fitting dentures cause many of the choking emergencies. Alcohol is an especially significant factor in choking deaths. In a study of 50 choking victims who died in restaurants, more than 75 per cent were at least "under the influence" — having a blood-alcohol content of 0.5 or greater.

Successful episodes

The maneuver has been used effectively in the past. A sergeant of police in Kansas City used the maneuver 14 years ago to dislodge a piece of candy from his then one-and-a-half-year-old son. A woman, who inadvertently inhaled food

clears choking



upon being told a joke during dinner, was saved from choking by a friend who applied the maneuver. The friend had been raised on a farm where, he said, the maneuver had been used on cows.

Much more recently, a Chicago fire chief saved his five-year-old son from choking on a piece of pot roast by placing the child on his knee and applying force. At a professional advertising society's banquet, a woman seated at the speaker's table was saved when an officer of the society applied the maneuver while someone else pounded on the woman's back. The incident occurred in view of a couple of hundred people, but only a handful seemed to notice because the woman was saved in less than 15 seconds.

The method of slapping a person on the back to dislodge food stuck in the throat is recommended by some doctors and condemned by others. Other doctors recommend dislodging the obstruction by "flipping" it with a finger or grabbing it with two fingers. Still others recommend using a spoon or a special device.

Objections to the "Heimlich maneuver" concern possible injury to the liver or spleen and broken ribs.

In response to these objections, Dr. Heimlich has said that this points up the

'I had a friend who choked'

"I've been impressed with this method because I had a friend who choked on a piece of food in my presence in a restaurant," said Summa L. Stelly, director of safety and claims. "I didn't know how to dislodge it.

"He was turning blue when I laid him over the back of a chair and pounded on his back, freeing the food. It was the Heimlich Maneuver, sort of, but I didn't know that was what I was doing."

Gulf States has ordered the film "How to Save a Choking Victim: The Heimlich Maneuver," Stelly said. It will be available for viewing at safety meetings and may be checked out of the Company's film library for use before civic groups, scouting meetings, etc.

Contact the safety department to make arrangements.

importance of stressing that pressure must be applied below the rib cage. He also points out that these complications should not deter anyone from saving someone who is choking to death. However, the person should receive prompt medical attention immediately after the rescue.

Professional training soon

Professional training in the "Heimlich maneuver" will soon be available from the American Red Cross with publication of the maneuver procedure in the new edition of its *First Aid Handbook*. The Handbook will be available this spring, when the Red Cross will begin teaching the maneuver.

Several hundred City of Memphis employees have been taught the "Heimlich maneuver" as part of a first aid course offered by the Memphis-Shelby County Civil Defense. Some companies are also including the maneuver in their off-the-job safety programs. Amoco Oil Company, for example, has taught it to some of their employees and can verify the effectiveness of the maneuver.

Carl Huss, public and government affairs director of the Houston area for Amoco Oil, gagged on a piece of meat while having lunch in an Odessa, Tex. restaurant. One of his companions began to pound him on the back, but then Amoco's Dave Davidson, Odessa area superintendent, quickly applied the

"Heimlich maneuver" and very likely saved Huss' life.

At Amoco Chemical's Joliet, Ill., plant, clerk Wally Kinzel began to gag as he was eating a steak sandwich in his office during the noon hour. Gasping for air and feeling he might vomit, he hastened to the men's washroom. Within seconds, in walked Jerry Barnett, safety supervisor, who applied the maneuver and dislodged the morsel of meat.

A film titled *How to Save a Choking Victim: The Heimlich Maneuver* has been prepared. It "stars" Dr. Heimlich himself demonstrating the maneuver. For more information on the film, contact Oxford Films, 1136 N. Las Palmas Ave., Los Angeles 90038.

Slides, posters, brochures, wallet cards, and even T-shirts promote the maneuver.

The National Safety Council is now in the process of preparing a poster demonstrating the maneuver.

The American Medical Association (AMA) has very recently approved the maneuver as a "good addition to emergency medical procedures," in the words of Bill Burnette, AMA Department Director of Emergency Medical Services. The AMA is presently determining "the proper position of the maneuver in the sequence of procedures previously recommended."

This article has been reprinted from the Feb., 1976, issue of National Safety News.

RETIREEES NEWS



Morris M. Miller, (above) retired district serviceman in Opelousas, got his picture in the Opelousas *Daily World* Feb. 17, with this pair of turnips he grew to a total weight of 14 pounds. Miller said he uses a mule to plow his large garden "because I like it."

The **Sideliners Club** held a party Jan. 4 at the Lake Charles home of Fay Denney, retired executive secretary, and her sister and brother-in-law, Vera and Billey Willey. The club of GSU retirees generally holds meetings the first Thursday of every even-numbered month. The last meeting was April 1 at Riverside Poor Boy Inn in Lafayette. More than 25 persons enjoyed the get-together, including new members, Perry Dickinson, Parks Handley and Kelly Powell and their wives. Persons interested in joining the club or attending any of its meetings should contact Walter House, through the GSU Lake Charles office.

Herman and Beatrice Sockrider (he is the recently retired district accountant in Lake Charles) are all excited about being great-grandparents. Shawn Michael Green, son of Angela and Mark Green, was born Feb. 12 in Biloxi, Miss. The child weighed 9 pounds, 8 ounces at birth.

Bill Buckley, retired director of tax accounting, has officially put his stamp of approval on retirement. He had worked three months in the Main Office recently and is plenty glad to be back to loafing. "Retirement?" he said. "I approve of it. I didn't realize how good it is."

Obie O'Brien and his wife have moved to Denton, Tex., to be near their children.

The retired Neches Station mechanical maintenance foreman has a daughter teaching mathematics at Texas Women's University in Denton and a son who is an apartment manager in nearby Dallas.

"I plan to enjoy my daughter's swimming pool and play with my five grandchildren," O'Brien said.

Obie's new address is 2423 Emerson Lane, Denton, Tex. 76201.

Whitney Keller, retired labor foreman, is recuperating from open heart surgery at his home at 203 Belden St., Lake Charles. It's reported he's about ready to get back to fishing.

Dorothy Louise Akins, daughter of **Elouise Akins**, retired customer accounting clerk in Lake Charles, has received the Annie Webb Blanton Scholarship awarded by the International Delta Kappa Gamma Society. Miss Akins has been employed in Calcasieu Parish schools for 21 years and is currently a counselor at Barbe High School. She will take a year's sabbatical leave next school year to work on her Doctor of Education degree in counseling and guidance at McNeese State University.

A new, long-life, low-energy light bulb

A new light bulb has been invented that could last up to 10 years and use 70 per cent less energy than conventional incandescent bulbs.

The bulb's inventor is Donald Hollister of Lighting Technology Corp., Fullerton, Cal. The firm has been awarded a \$310,000 contract by the Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA) to refine, test and evaluate the bulb.

The fluorescent "Litek" bulb resembles a 100-watt incandescent bulb, fits standard sockets and gives off a warm white light similar to conventional bulbs.

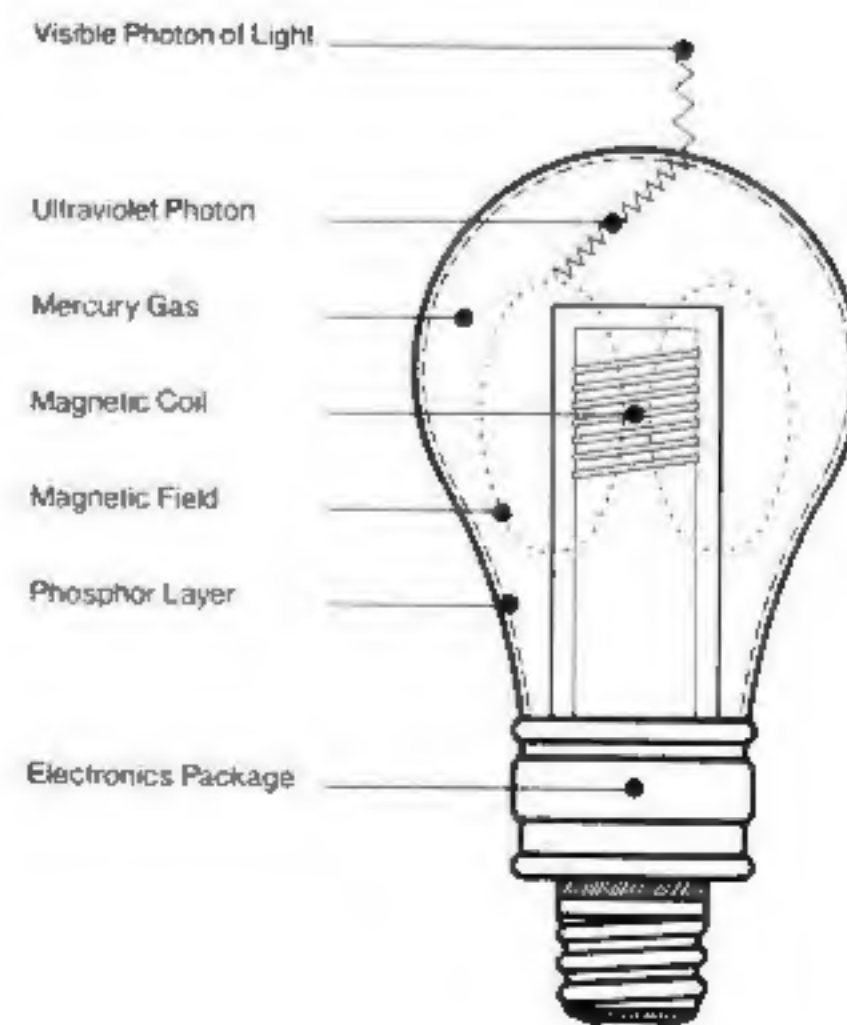
Unlike an incandescent bulb, the Litek has no hot filament. It has a cool magnet-

ic coil that is energized by an electronics package in the lower part of the bulb. The coil produces a magnetic field that excites the mercury gas, resulting in an emission of ultraviolet light. The ultraviolet light causes the phosphor layer to fluoresce and emit visible light.

According to ERDA's Austin Heller, assistant administrator for conservation, "Preliminary studies show that full nationwide use of this new fluorescent lamp could save more than the equivalent of 500,000 barrels of oil per day."

Price of the bulb is initially expected to be in the \$10 range.

(Reprinted from *Electric Light and Power*, April, 1976)



River Bend Safety Hearings Underway

The Company moved a step closer to receiving a construction permit for River Bend Nuclear Power Station April 6-7 with the successful completion of the first phase of safety hearings conducted in St. Francisville by the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB).

The hearings were to have concluded in late May with further testimony to be given in two areas — the efficiency of existing reactors' use of uranium fuel and the results of a new census of milk-producing animals in the area.

Appearing at the April proceedings were representatives of Gulf States and its lawyers; Stone & Webster, general contractor and architectural engineers for the project; General Electric, manufacturer of the boiling water reactors to be used in the plant; and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). After reviewing the Company's plans, the NRC had earlier issued a favorable Safety Evaluation Report recommending the plant be allowed to be built.

The only official intervenor in the case was neither present at the hearings nor represented by a lawyer. Richard Troy, assistant attorney general for the State of Louisiana, spoke for the State as an "interested state," which is allowed under the legal rules of the board.

Troy's attempt to ask more than 100 general questions about the safety of River Bend was not allowed, however, because the questions were judged not specific enough to be useful to the board.

Company lawyers termed the state's actions a "shotgun approach" which constituted a delaying action rather than a real concern over safety issues.

In response to the intent of the state's concern, the NRS staff explained that their safety analyses are constantly under review and improvement.

Of interest to the board was the accuracy of calculations used to estimate how much uranium a reactor used in operation. Such forecasts are important to insure that there will be enough uranium around to fuel River Bend throughout its economic lifetime.



The Company's legal counsel at the River Bend hearings: Troy Connor of Washington D.C. and Stanley Plettman of Beaumont. Jim Derr and Jim Booker in the background.

The Company and General Electric testified that monitoring tests run on older reactors have led to improved methods for determining the fuel consumption. Reactors normally consume more fuel per kilowatt-hour of electricity produced in the first five years of operation than in later years — after "equilibrium" is attained, said Jim Champagne, supervisor of technical services in the power plant engineering and design group.

The NRC staff requested another session of hearings be held in May to allow time to analyze the Company's data and to prepare their own assessment of the efficiency of uranium consumption.

The final matter to be taken up in May is the alleged location of a milk-producing goat located closer to the plant than the cow grazing 1.3 miles north of the site used in radiation calculations. The calculations are used to determine what measures are necessary to insure the health of persons living near the plant.

The nearest milk-producing animal is assumed to ingest grass containing "radioiodine" released from the operating plant.

The animal concentrates the substance in its milk. A child is then assumed to drink all milk from that animal, the radioiodine concentrating in the child's thyroid. The radioactive doses to that child's thyroid are kept well within safe limits by controlling the emissions from the plant to the grazing animal.

By making the worst possible assumptions, the Company and NRC officials can be sure that no one attains even the minimum level of exposure used in the calculations.

A lady living near the plant told the NRC she had a goat producing milk fed to children which was closer to River Bend than the cow cited by the Company in previous reports. Company officials said the presence of the goat was known, but the lady had stated earlier that the animal was used to provide meat, not milk.

Should the goat be classed as a milk-producer, the Company could have to install filters costing up to \$4 million to bring the already small expected releases down even smaller.

Reddy Credit reshaped

The Reddy Credit program for financing the purchase of electrical appliances on a person's Gulf States bill has been reshaped to include only energy-efficient central air conditioning and heating systems, heat pumps and insulation.

As of April 30, the Company no longer financed washers, dryers, refrigerators, ranges, window air conditioners or electric water heaters and other appliances. Central air conditioning units with proper insulation installed must have an energy efficiency ratio (EER) of greater than 8 (including the blower unit) and include proper home insulation to be eligible for Reddy Credit financing.

Proper insulation is said to be a minimum of R-19 in a home's attic, R-11 in walls and R-13 in floors. An "R" rating is the resistance to heat flow the insulation affords. A higher rating indicates more effective insulation.

"Three factors caused us to change the Reddy Credit program," said Aubrey Sprawls, director of consumer marketing. "First, rulings by the Federal Trade Commission made us liable for customer satisfaction for the life of the note — up to 60

months. Because so many dealers are involved — about 350 throughout the system — regulation is difficult. With our emphasis on an efficient marketing system, we don't have the people to work with that many dealers. Had the FTC not ruled as it did, we would have considered keeping a selected few dealers.

"Second, there is a dire need for capital in the Company. We financed about \$3 million of appliances and comfort conditioning equipment last year. Though Reddy Credit has been as profitable as the electric portion of the Company's business, we need to put every penny of our money to its best use. In this case, that's building electric generating and service facilities.

"Third, the changes in Reddy Credit reflect the realignment of our marketing objectives by encouraging the purchase and financing of energy-efficient comfort conditioning equipment.

"Our critical goal is to reduce our peak demand in the summertime. The only way we see to reduce the peak is to promote these energy conservation measures and high efficiency central units.

"For every house that switches from an air conditioner with an EER of 6.5 to one rated at 8, our peak demand is reduced by one kilowatt."

Other changes in Reddy Credit include a \$300 minimum contract value, a \$10 minimum monthly payment and reduction of the maximum term of the note from 60 months to 48 months.

The switch from promoting window unit air conditioners is a significant break from the original aim of the Reddy Credit program, founded in 1967.

"Air conditioning was becoming universal and we thought that lower income people needed the opportunity to live in comfort by buying window units," Sprawls said. "At that time, we were trying to help the black community in particular. They could easily finance their comfort on their monthly electric bill.

"At that time, maximum interest rates on the Reddy Credit notes were 14.5 per cent annually, lower than the common 18 per cent to 22 per cent charged by most stores and credit companies," he said. Current charges total at most 16.5 per cent annually.

Calvert wins scouting honor

C. E. "Gene" Calvert, manager of power plant construction, received the Silver Beaver Award, scouting's highest recognition for "contributions to boyhood and the community."

The award was presented Jan. 27 by the Three Rivers Council of the Boy Scouts of America, which serves 13 Southeast Texas counties.

Calvert helped plan, staff and conduct the first Council Wood Badge Course, in which he also served as Scoutmaster. He was later council coordinator for the second course.

He holds the Scoutmasters Award, is a multibead holder of the Wood Badge and a member of the Order of the Arrow. Calvert has been a Jamboree Leader, a Scoutmaster in two different troops, on the Council Executive Board, a Pack Committee Member and Chairman of the Council Long Range Planning Committee.

He is pictured with his wife Patricia and son Robert.





EASTER EGG CHAMPS — Nine children of Company employees took the loot at the Live Wires Club's annual Easter Egg hunt held April 11 at the club's camp near Silsbee. Prizes were awarded for the most eggs found by a boy and by a girl and for finding the silver egg. About 50 youngsters took part. Winners in the 1-4-year-old group were Ron Audilet and Chelbi Kemp for the most eggs; Christina VonNetzer found the silver egg. In the 5-8-year-old group, Gregory Russell and Stacy Asbridge found the most; Maryann McMeel located the silver egg. In the 9-12-year-old group, William Crowe and Gina LaRocca found the most; Kevin Smith pocketed the silver egg. Left to right are McMeel, Crowe, Russell, Asbridge, Smith, VonNetzer, Audilet, Kemp and LaRocca. (from Pat McMeel)

THRIFT PLAN

Purchases of Gulf States Utilities common stock made by the trustee during March, 1976, covering employee deductions and Company contributions through Feb., 1976, were as follows:

COMMON STOCK:

Shares	Date Purchased	Price per Share	Total Cost	Commission
1,975	10 March	13 1/8	\$25,921.90	(match out)*
2,000	11 March	13	26,360.00	\$360.00
2,700	17 March	13 1/4	36,180.00	405.00
600	17 March	13 1/8	7,965.00	90.00
62	17 March	13 3/8	838.55	9.30

Total: 7,337 shares bought at an average price of \$13.25684 per share.

PREFERRED STOCK

2	10 March	55	110.00	(match out)*
20	16 March	55 1/2	1,134.60	24.60

Total: 22 shares bought at an average price of \$56.57273 per share.

The trustee deposited \$100,829.78 with the savings department of the First Security National Bank.

*The trustee buys shares redeemed by participants without commission costs.

B. R. bowlers win at home

Hometown keglers took first and second in every event of the annual Gulf States Bowling tournament at Plant Bowl in Baton Rouge April 24.

The Baton Rouge sweep was impressive — locals won 16 of the top eight places in the team, singles and doubles events.

Lambert's Losers captured team honors with a 2,455 score — nine pins better than the Gas House Gang. Members of the winning team were: Bob Buckle, Bobby Kirkpatrick, Elmo Lambert and Paul Ziegler. They divided \$96 in prize money.

Wilma Day took the singles crown and the \$58 first prize with a 686 handicapped tally — eight pins more than Jim Brady. Ziegler and Kirkpatrick won the doubles title 1,300 to 1,266 for runners-up Larry Heintz and P. E. Whitehead. The winning team split \$116 in prize money.

The best non-Baton Rouge finisher was E. J. Badeaux of Port Arthur, who placed third in singles with a 672 handicapped series.

Ziegler took the men's All-Events prize of \$50. Mrs. Day took the ladies title worth \$34. All-Events winners were based on total pinfall for all three events.

Ziegler by placing first in the doubles, team and All-Events races, was the top money winner with \$132. A total of \$1,444 was collected and disbursed in the form of fees, food and prizes. Nearly 100 persons competed in the tournament, which was coordinated by Dewey Raborn. The 1977 tournament will be held in Lake Charles.

BOWLING RESULTS

TEAM EVENT: 1. Lambert's Losers; 2. Gas House Gang; 3. Les Amis, Baton Rouge; 4. The Denham Four, Denham Springs; 5. Sonnier Electric, Lake Charles; 6. Rolling 40's, Lake Charles; 7. Carr & Buche, Baton Rouge; 8. Del's Delights, Baton Rouge.

SINGLES: 1. Wilma Day; 2. Jim Brady; 3. E. J. Badeaux; 4. John Tilly, Beaumont; 5. P. E. Whitehead, Baton Rouge; 6. Joe Cloutier, Lake Charles; 7. George Hickman, Beaumont; 8. Larry Heintz, Baton Rouge.

DOUBLES: 1. Ziegler-Kirkpatrick; 2. Heintz-Whitehead; 3. Elmo Lambert-Bob Buckle, Baton Rouge; 4. Joe Simpson-Marty Luginbuhl, Beaumont; 5. Jan Graham-Beverly Smith, Baton Rouge; 6. Kenneth Comeaux-Anita Comeaux, Baton Rouge; 7. Welda Hanks-Columbus Hanks, Lake Charles; 8. Darlene Young-Jane Lambert, Baton Rouge.

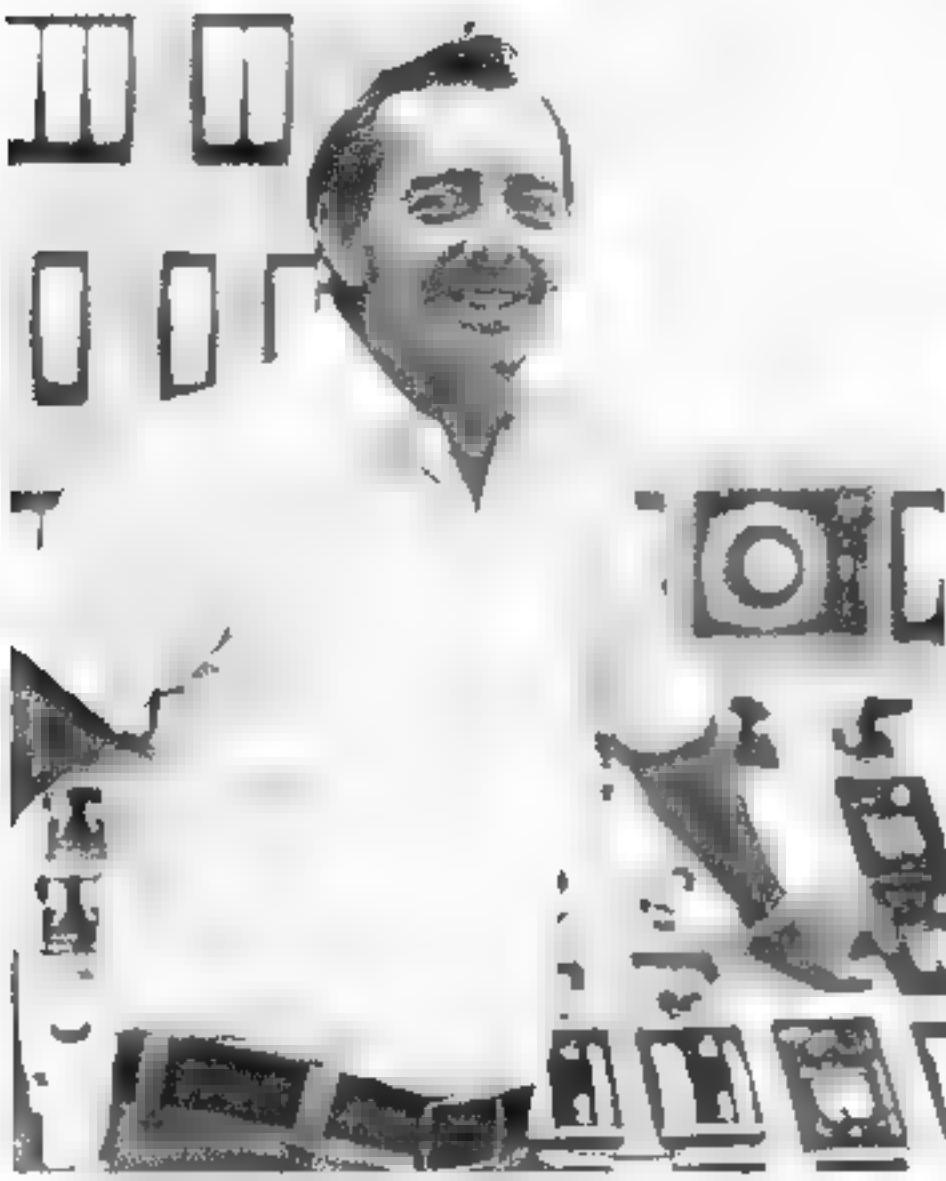
Gas wells producing

First natural gas production from eight wells in the Chunchula field in south Alabama began May 16.

Varibus Corp., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Gulf States, will have about a 3.6 per cent interest in the products of the wells. Public Service Co. of Oklahoma, a subsidiary of Central and South West Corp. has a similar interest.

Union Oil Co. of California, as operator for itself and others, has drilled more than a dozen wells — including the eight mentioned above — in the area to define the extent of the field. Oil and gas were discovered in the Mobile County area in 1973.

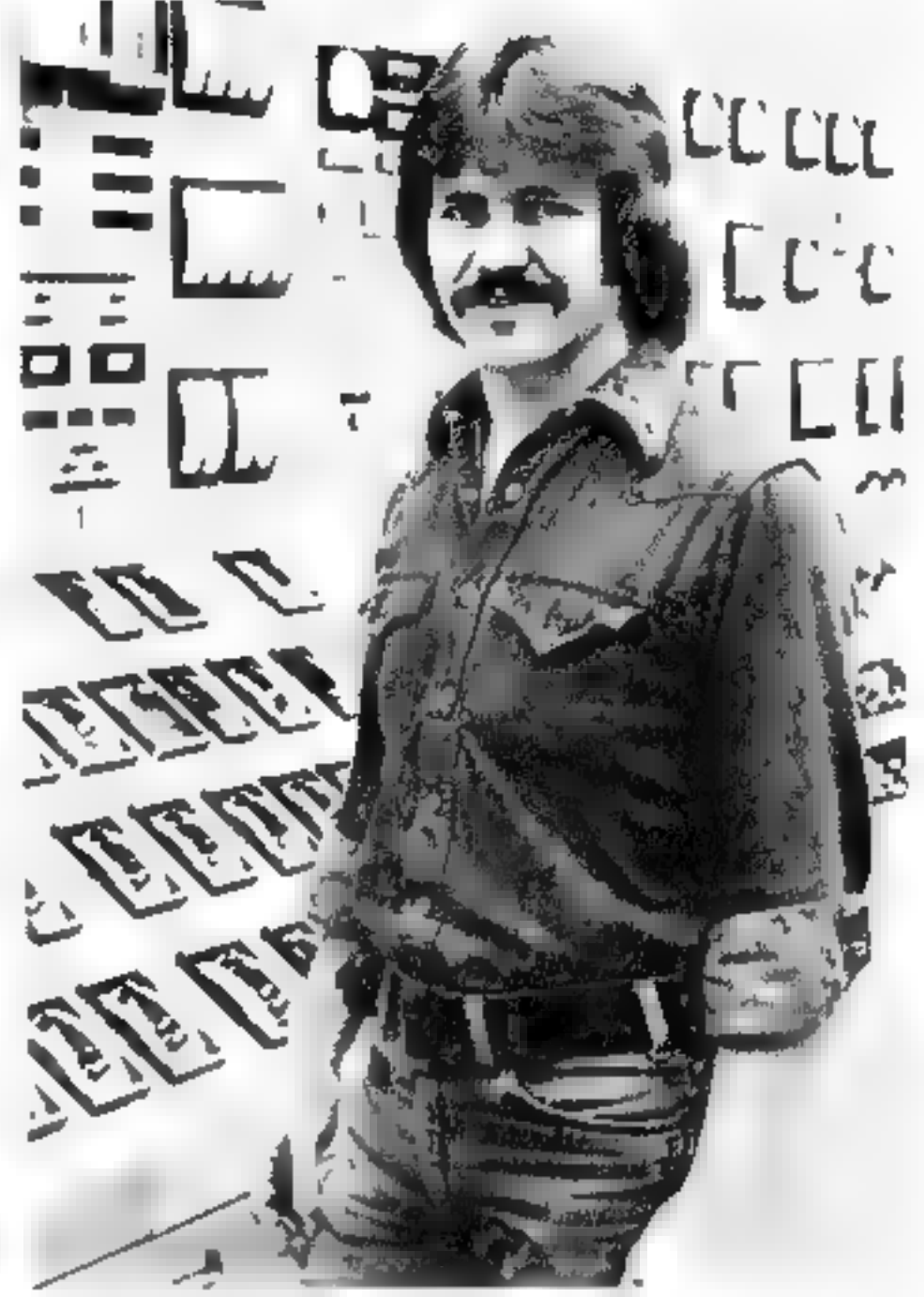
PEOPLE ON THE MOVE



Clyde Newman



Jimmy Vice



Robert Robinson



Larry Madden



Ed Sims

Five men have been promoted to control operations foremen at Willow Glen Station.

Taking the new positions are: Ed Sims, Clyde Newman and Robert Robinson, all formerly equipment operators at the St. Gabriel, La., power plant; Larry Madden, formerly equipment operator at Lewis Creek Station, and Jimmy Vice, formerly turbine engineer at Louisiana Station.

Sims is a native of Baton Rouge and a graduate of Istrouma High School there. He served in the U. S. Air Force four years before joining Gulf States in 1959 as an operator's helper at Louisiana Station.

He progressed to auxiliary operator and turbine operator there and was transferred to Willow Glen in 1968. He became an equipment operator later that year.

He is married to the former Doris Bettencourt of Somerset, Mass. The couple has four children, aged 12 - 16, all of whom attend schools in Baker, La. The family attends the Baker Church of God.

Newman is a native of Hammond, La., and a graduate of Hammond High School.

He joined Gulf States in 1972 as an equipment operator at Willow Glen. He has worked in the substation department of Louisiana Power & Light Co. and as a control operator for Pacific Gas & Electric Co.

He served more than three years in the U. S. Navy.

Newman is married to the former

Laura Ann McCullough of Martinez, Cal. The couple has three children.

Robinson is a native of Centerville, Miss. He was graduated from Centerville High School and joined Gulf States as an operator's helper at Willow Glen in 1968. He was named equipment operator in 1970. Robinson served two years in the U. S. Army 1971-72, after which he was reinstated as an equipment operator.

Madden is a native of Foreman, Ark. He was graduated from French High School in Beaumont and served two years in the U. S. Navy before joining Gulf States in 1965 as an operator's helper in Neches Station. He progressed to auxiliary operator in 1967 and turbine operator in 1968 before being named equipment operator at the then new Lewis Creek Power Station.

He is married to the former Marion Hampton of Beaumont. The couple has three children, aged 4, 8 and 11.

Vice is a native of New Iberia, La. He was graduated from Redemptorist High School in Baton Rouge and served more than three years in the U. S. Navy before joining Gulf States as an operator's helper at Louisiana Station.

He progressed through auxiliary operator, turbine operator, turbine water plant operator and second fireman before being named turbine engineer in 1970.

He is married to the former Doris Marbury of New Orleans. The couple has three children. The family attends St. Isidore Catholic Church in Baker, La.



Al Naylor

Al Naylor, formerly director of engineering planning, has been promoted to executive assistant in technical services, reporting directly to Joe Bondurant, vice president of technical services.

A. Milton Smith, formerly planning supervisor, has been promoted to director of transmission planning.

"Al will be planning the orderly expansion of our generating facilities, taking into account the economic, technological and environmental factors," Bondurant said. "He also will have a high level of responsibility in running of the corporate model."

Smith will be responsible for the planning, estimating, budgeting and scheduling of all transmission, substation and communications facilities for the Company.

"We perform various studies — such as load flow analyses and stability studies — to determine what transmission lines and substations need to be built," Smith said. "On projects we can justify within our budget, we prepare the preliminary engineering layout necessary for cost estimates and approval."

"After a project is approved by management, system design engineering writes the technical specifications and issues construction data."

Naylor is a native of Amarillo, Tex., and was graduated from the University of Texas in Austin in 1958.

He joined the Company after graduation as an engineer in Beaumont. He was initially assigned to the relay design sec-



A. Milton Smith

tion of system engineering and transferred to system engineering planning in 1965.

He was named supervisor of planning in 1969 and director of engineering planning in 1973.

He is a registered professional engineer in Texas and chairman of the Beaumont Section of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.

Naylor is married to the former Grace Spivey of Sour Lake. The couple has two young sons.

Smith is a native of Bryan, Tex., and a 1959 graduate of Texas A&M University. He joined the Company after graduation as an engineer in Beaumont, and then served two years in the U. S. Army.

Smith returned to Beaumont in 1962 and was assigned as a T&D engineer. He served in the construction budget, system engineering information services (estimating and budgeting) and system engineering planning before being named Lake Charles division engineer in 1969.

He was later named operating supervisor in Lake Charles and was brought back to Beaumont in 1973 as planning supervisor.

Smith is a registered professional engineer in Texas and Louisiana, and a member of the Beaumont A&M Club. He serves as deacon and Sunday School director at Emanuel Baptist Church in the Fletcher community north of Beaumont.

He is married to the former Beverly Finke of Bryan. The couple has six children, ranging in ages from 2 to 16.



Roy West

Roy West, formerly director of quality assurance, has been promoted to manager of quality assurance.

"This move further demonstrates our confidence in the concept of quality assurance," said Joe Bondurant, vice president of technical services. "The QA group is charged with the inspection and the enforcement of all Federal, state and local regulations GSU committed to in earlier reports concerning the construction of nuclear power plants."

"QA gets involved in all phases of the River Bend project right now. We felt they needed equal status and authority with other departments involved in the construction of the plant."

Bondurant also predicted QA techniques would pay off if also applied to fossil-fueled power plants and other large construction projects.

West is a native of Childress, Tex., and a 1958 graduate of Texas A&M University. He had served six years in the U. S. Army before attending college.

After his graduation, West joined Gulf States as an engineer in Beaumont. He was transferred to Louisiana Station and then to system construction-production in 1960. He was transferred back to Louisiana Station in 1965 and rose to plant superintendent in 1970. He was named director of quality assurance in late 1973.

West is a registered professional engineer in Texas and Louisiana. He is a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the American Society for Quality Control and the American Nuclear Society.

He is married to the former Jeanette Zimmerman of Atlanta, Ga. The couple has two sons.



Charles Echard and Milton Graugnard

Milton Graugnard, formerly engineer in power plant engineering and design, has been named to the new position of technical supervisor at Willow Glen Station. Charles Echard, formerly master test technician in system production, has joined Graugnard as technical foreman.

Initially Graugnard will be responsible for the technical, fuel, efficiency, environmental and water treatment aspects of the plant. Reporting to Graugnard will be Echard; Jim Cryer, plant engineer; and Mitchell Hollier, plant chemist.

Echard will work to keep the plant's computers on line and functioning to their capabilities.

Graugnard is a native of Galveston and a 1970 graduate from Lamar University. He joined Gulf States after his graduation as an engineer in system production. He was plant engineer at Willow Glen for a year before moving back to Beaumont in 1972 as engineer in power plant engineering and design. He is married to the former Donna Demetrios of Hitchcock, Tex. The couple has one 19-month-old son, Brandon.

Echard is a native of Altoona, Pa., and a graduate of the Williamson Trade School in Media, Pa., that graduated such Gulf States executives as the late Roy Nelson, Pat Murphy and Jim Derr. Echard spent nearly a year in the Navy in 1964 and joined Gulf States as a test technician first class in 1967. He became a master test technician 13 months later. He is married to the former Carol Wenzell of Beaumont. The couple has two young children.



Lonnie Cox, formerly lineman first class in Lake Charles, has been named utility foreman.

A native of Eagle Mills, Ark., Cox was graduated from Marion High School in Lake Charles in 1954 and joined Gulf States three years later as a helper in the Lake Charles T&D line department.

He progressed to lineman first class by 1962, was assigned to the service department in 1970 and again back to the line department in 1972.

He is married to the former Glenda Puterbaugh of Ukiah, Cal. The couple has two daughters, Betty Loraine, a student at McNeese State University, and Beverly Lynn, who attends elementary school in Lacassine, La.



Geoffrey Purdon

Geoffrey Purdon, formerly director of the construction budget, has been promoted to director of scheduling and cost control in the construction department.

"I will be working with the architectural engineers for various construction projects to develop and maintain an orderly and logical plan for all construction scheduling and costing activities," Purdon said.

"These plans take into account labor productivity and industry norms of how long and how much money is required to perform a specific task," he said. "I will report to management if a project is on schedule or not. Also, if there are any large cost overruns, I explain to management the underlying reasons." Purdon will also tell the construction budget group the cash needs of each project.

Purdon is a Beaumont native and 1960 mechanical engineering graduate of Lamar University. He also earned an MBA from Lamar in 1970.

He joined Gulf States as an unassigned engineer in Beaumont in 1960. He worked in system engineering, Louisiana Station, rate department and system engineering design before being named budget engineer in system engineering planning in 1969. Nearly two years later Purdon became coordinator of estimating and budgeting. In 1973, Purdon was named director of the construction budget in financial services.

He is a charter member of the Beaumont Northwest Lions Club.

Purdon is married to the former Sandra Sue Grant of Beaumont. The couple has two children.



David N. Beekman

David N. Beekman, engineer in system support services, has been transferred to the rates department.

There he will make cost-of-service analyses to determine how to properly assign the costs of generating electricity to various classes and locales of our customers.

"This will save us a lot of consulting fees," said Norman Head, rates manager. "We've been paying outsiders about \$40 per hour for what Beekman will do for us."

Born in Berkeley, Cal., Beekman has received a B. S. degree in electrical engineering and mathematics and a Master of Engineering Science degree from Lamar University.

He joined Gulf States as an engineer in systems support services in 1970 after receiving his bachelors degree.

Beekman is married to the former Sharon Jones of Beaumont.



Jean L. Spitznagle

Jean L. Spitznagle, formerly senior clerk in payroll, has been promoted to confidential records clerk.

Mrs. Spitznagle will learn all the jobs normally handled by the other confidential records clerks in the office so she can provide vacation relief. She also will be the liason between operating payroll and field supervisors.

A native of New Orleans, Mrs. Spitznagle is a graduate of Beaumont High and completed two years of business courses at Lamar Tech. She joined the Company as a clerk in payroll in 1963 and was promoted to senior clerk in 1970.

She is active in the Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Beaumont where she is past chairman of the Altar Guild. Mrs. Spitznagle has also served as treasurer of the American Lutheran Church Women.

She has two teenaged daughters, both of whom have won scholastic awards and are active in church work.



Charles R. Lopez

Charles R. Lopez, formerly mechanical design engineer, has been promoted to project engineer in the power plant engineering and design department.

Lopez assumes essentially the same duties of C. A. "Butch" Ibach, who retired last December.

Lopez will supervise the design and engineering of all fossil-fueled power plants in the system. These include Sabine 5, currently under construction, the oil conversion and environmental work at Willow Glen 3 and the pollution control project at Nelson 4.

Lopez is a native of Lake Charles, La. He was graduated from the University of Southwestern Louisiana in 1955 with a degree in mechanical engineering.

He joined Gulf States as an engineer in Beaumont for one month before serving a 29-month stint in the U.S. Air Force.

He was assigned to the system production department in 1958 and was named office engineer at Neches Station later that year.

Lopez moved back to the Main Office in 1961. He was transferred to scheduling in system engineering in 1966 and was named supervisor of scheduling 10 months later.

He became a mechanical design engineer in the power plant engineering and design department in 1970.

He is a registered professional engineer in Texas, a member of the Louisiana Delta Chapter of Tau Beta Pi and a member of the Northwest Beaumont Lions Club.

Lopez is married to the former Geraldine Delahoussaye of New Iberia, La. The couple has five children, aged 15-20.

Smith heads Savings Bonds effort

Floyd R. Smith, chairman of the board, has been named chairman of the 1976 Golden Triangle Savings Bonds Campaign, according to John V. James, chairman of the Texas Savings Bonds Committee.

The "Take Stock In America" campaign, a coordinated area-wide effort to promote the sale of Savings Bonds, centers primarily on the Payroll Savings Plan in business and industry, since this is the method through which potential bond buyers can be most directly reached. The local campaign goals for 1976 are to enlist 3000 individuals as new savers and to obtain increased allotments from 2000

workers.

Kickoff meetings for the Savings Bond drive will be held in Jefferson and Orange Counties April 20 and 21. Smith will be assisted in the area campaign by Scott N. Ludrick, area representative of the U. S. Savings Bond Division of the Treasury Department; and R. Earl White, vice president and assistant to Smith.

Gulf States employees wishing to buy U. S. Bonds through the Payroll Savings Plan should contact LaMelle Triplett, payroll administrator, at extension 3150 in Beaumont.

Only 213 GSU employees currently participate in the plan.

SERVICE AWARDS



Wendell R. Smith
Gas
Baton Rouge

Alfred J. Dearmond
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge



30 Years



Lloyd J. Clements
Electric T&D
Lake Charles



Gerald W. Dailey
Electric T&D
Orange

Melton D. Byrd
Electric T&D
Lake Charles



20 Years



Terrell G. Franklin
Division Accounting
Lake Charles



Eddie Young
Engineering Design
Beaumont



Franklin H. Suitt
Engineering Design
Beaumont



William L. Norwood Jr.
Electric T&D
Conroe



Elton R. Coleman
Electric T&D
Beaumont



Floyd E. Fortenberry
Electric T&D
Beaumont

10 Years



Betty M. Baker
Division Accounting
Beaumont

DEATHS



Joachim S. Himel Jr.

Joachim S. "Bunny" Himel Jr., 44, died March 14 of an apparently self-inflicted gunshot wound. Himel was a control operations foreman at Willow Glen Station.

He was a Baton Rouge native and a graduate of Baton Rouge High School. Himel served in the U. S. Navy during the Korean Conflict.

Himel joined the Company in 1949 as an operator's helper. He rose to turbine engineer there in 1958 and was transferred to Willow Glen the next year as an equipment operator. He was promoted to foreman in 1968.

He picked up the nicknames "Bunny" and "Rabbit" after telling of his rabbit hunting prowess to friends at a training conference in the mid-60's.

Himel is survived by his wife, Faye; his mother, Mrs. J. S. Himel; two daughters, Rhonda Kay Himel and Lori Lynn Himel; two sons, Ronald Eric Himel and Barry Keith Himel, all of Baton Rouge; three sisters, Anna Lee Crane of Sherman Oaks, Cal.; Beryl Clements of Baton Rouge; and Gail Freeman of Metairie, La.; and three brothers, Belmont P. Himel, Randolph Joseph Himel and Carl Ray Himel, all of Baton Rouge.

Whitney Miguez, 58, janitor in Beaumont T&D Building & Grounds, died April 26 following a heart attack.

A native of New Iberia, La., Miguez attended Charlton-Pollard High School in Beaumont and served in the U. S. Army during World War II.

He joined the Company in 1950 as a laborer in the Beaumont T&D Department and became a janitor in 1963.

Survivors include his wife, Alice Miguez; two sisters, Audrey Phillips and Lola Clark, both of Beaumont; and one brother Harry Miguez of Los Angeles.

Carroll B. Hatton, 37, senior draftsman in system engineering, died April 26 of lung cancer.

A native of Warren, Tex., Hatton was graduated from Kirbyville High School and joined Gulf States in 1959 as an engineering helper in Beaumont T&D.

He became a draftsman in 1966 and progressed to senior draftsman a year later.



Whitney Miguez



Carroll B. Hatton

Hatton was known for his farming in Silsbee. He often sold home-grown watermelons near the Main Office.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Ann, three sons, Keith Hatton, Carroll Hatton and Kyle Hatton, all of Silsbee; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Beauford Hatton of Hillister; a sister, Dolores Jordan of Spurger; two brothers, Eddie Hatton and David Hatton, both of Woodville; and his grandmother, Maude Sawyer of Silsbee.

Dear Friends,

I am thankful to you all for the wonderful things that have been done for me and my family since I have been ill. We appreciate the many visits, both at the hospital and at home, the phone calls, cards, flowers, food and prayers. I would like to encourage you to continue praying for us.

We especially appreciate the large amount of money collected for us; it really was useful this time. Also thank you for helping complete our house.

Thank you again and may God bless you.

Carroll Hatton

Carroll Hatton

Carroll Hatton was in the process of moving into a new home when he learned he had contracted terminal lung cancer. Treatment at Houston's M. D. Anderson Clinic was unproductive and Hatton was sent home in December. Co-workers and friends collected more than \$600 and also helped build enough of Hatton's new home so his family could move into the home before he died. Hatton wrote this letter to his friends 10 days before his death.

LETTERS

April 20, 1976

Mr. W. E. Richard
District Manager
Gulf States Utilities Co
P. O. Box 2892
Lake Charles, LA 70601

Dear Mr. Richard,

We, representing the Our Lady Queen of Heaven School Carnival, take this opportunity to thank you for the use of your grills on Sunday April 4th. Our Carnival was a great success due to the generosity of businesses like Gulf States that loaned their equipment for our use. Over 700 delicious hamburgers were cooked on your grills and netted us over \$300.00. Thanking you again.

Sincerely,

Carol and A.C. May

Carol and A. C. May
Co-Chairmen O.L.Q.H.
Carnival '76

February 10, 1976

Mr. Sheldon Fruge
Gulf States Utilities Co.
Lewis Creek Power Plant
P. O. Box 435
Willis, Texas 77328

Dear Mr. Fruge:

The Rural Electrification Class from Sam Houston State University thanks you and the other two men for a nice orientation and tour of your facilities. The information will enable them to more fully appreciate the cost and convenience of having electricity at their finger tips.

I know you were busy and we were not on your installation at a "good" time but you carried the affair off with nice style. I shall look forward to meeting you again.

Sincerely,

Yack Moseley

Yack C. Moseley
Assistant Professor
Sam Houston State University

February 18, 1976

Gulf States Utilities Company
314 North Main Street
Jennings, Louisiana

Dear Sponsors

As I was reading The Jennings News, I noticed your support of the Church Page. I wanted therefore, to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to you for this contribution. As a minister, I am concerned about the spiritual climate of our City. I believe your support of the page is a significant contribution to the spiritual upgrading of Jennings and our community.

Once again, "thank you" for your support and concern.

Sincerely yours in our Lord,

F. H. Gouaux

Father F. H. Gouaux, Pastor
Our Lady Help of Christians

Channelview, Texas
March 30, 1976

Gulf States Utilities Co.
Box 158
Conroe, Texas 77301
Att: Manager

Dear Sir:

I am writing to you about two of your men who drive your company truck #3535.

A little more than a week ago my wife had a flat tire about 25 miles north of Cleveland. They stopped — in the rain — and changed the wheel for her. They also saw that she got to Cleveland all right and to a filling station to get the tire repaired.

Courteous people like them are "few and far between." I don't know their names to write to them so I am writing to you to convey my thanks to them.

Yours truly,

W. W. Ault

W. W. Ault

(Gilbert Lauter, utility foreman in the substation department, and Rodney Stanford, substation mechanic third class, gave Mrs. Ault assistance. "Needless to say, I was quite proud of their good deed," said Ed Loggins, Western Division manager.)

April 23, 1976

Editor, Journal:

I think it's about time for someone to defend our utility companies in their attempts to get raise increases.

Somehow, we fail to realize that cost and price increases as well as inflation and higher taxes victimize them just as they do us. They have to pay higher salaries (about 80 cents of every dollar of cost of goods or services produced goes to wages). Union demands and minimum wage hikes have a very pronounced effect on costs. Companies, too, must pay higher advertising rates (the local papers recently put into effect a rate increase.) The increases in costs of gasoline, paper, stationery, machinery, equipment, trucks, cars, auto parts and accessories, desks fixtures, oil, lubricants — you name it — have hit the utilities just as hard as they have hit everyone else. But when these hit a company it has no recourse but pass it along to the customer, if it wants to stay in business for very long.

I've heard some people advise that the government should take over the utilities companies. Heaven forbid! Our utilities companies are extremely service oriented and extremely efficient. Nationalizing them would cause the same mess and lack of service that is evidenced in England, France, Italy and some of the other nations which have nationalized some industries.

Let's look at the problem from both sides. Most of us are too selfish and self-centered to consider any other views but our own. If we look at both sides. I'm sure every reasonable individual will arrive at the same conclusions:

1. Rate increases are justified; and
2. Our utilities companies are doing a terrific job — better than what the government has done or can do.

I am not employed by nor have any financial interest in our utilities companies.

George A. Rigely
P. O. Box 3694
Beaumont

(The preceding letter appeared in the April 23 editions of the Beaumont Journal.)

Dear Sir,

I would like to thank you for your support in the Montgomery County Fair. Without your support the Fair would not be possible. Many hours of hard work and determination have gone into producing these projects, but they could only be a success with people like yourself backing them.

Thank you very much for supporting me, and buying my lamb, and again Thank you.

Sincerely,

Annette Minor

Annette Minor

(Gulf States bought Miss Minor's lamb at the Montgomery County Fair. It was then resold to a packing house.)

April 8, 1976

Mr. Sammie Bono, Supervisor
Gulf States Utilities Co.
P. O. Box 2892
Lake Charles, LA 70601

Dear Mr. Bono:

All of the officers, members and staff wish to thank you for your efforts on behalf of the cerebral palsied, autistic and epileptic of our community. Without such help as yours, the telethon would not have been the tremendous success it was.

I think you will also be interested to know that in addition to the many pledges received, our office has had numerous calls commending the fine show and hard work of all concerned.

Again, please accept our gratitude for assisting us in this endeavor.

Sincerely yours,

Beatina A. O'Carroll

Beatina A. O'Carroll
Executive Director

(Sam Bono, service supervisor in Lake Charles and a city councilman, worked during the telethon.)

Editor, Enterprise:

Beaumonters' complaining about the high cost of utilities should never consider moving to Florida. Having lived in Beaumont for 27 years and moving here 15 months ago, I realize for the first time that I never had it so good, utility-wise, as in those 27 years.

I like comfort and it never occurred to me that I might cut down in some way in the use of electricity as my highest bill was \$34 and that during the heavy season. Considering the excellent service of all the utility companies in Beaumont, I should think they deserve a rate increase.

Here, I am conservative since my light bill jumped from \$37 to \$109. The winter was very mild and I leave the house open in the summer to the cool breezes.

I enjoy the Beaumont Enterprise very much even though the week's supply arrive from two to five on the same day. No fault of yours.

It's nice to see Eva Bourg back in the letters column. Also like Mr. Pellerin's conversations with his "Social Security Buddy."

M. L. Scott
503 Shea Place
Sun City Center, Fla.

(The preceding letter appeared in the April 19 editions of the Beaumont Enterprise.)

Guide for fishing rivers and streams

*By Butch Suitt
Senior Engineering Assistant
Drafting*

Ever get tired of that same old drag when you want to go fishing? Up at three a.m., drag your boat 100 miles or more to one of the big lakes (using up a lot of expensive fuel in the process), and then having to wait in line for nearly an hour to launch your boat.

You rush to your favorite fishing hole, only to find four boats already there.

It's enough to make you quit fishing.

Chances are, on your way to the big lakes you crossed some of the best fishing water around and didn't even realize it.

No matter where you live you are within a few miles of one of the many streams and rivers which abound with fish just waiting to be caught.

To the angler who usually fishes the large lakes, these streams offer some interesting challenges, as well as excellent fishing. In order to have a successful trip, though, it takes a little special preparation prior to the actual fishing trip.

Selecting your mode of transportation is your first step. Fit the boat to the size stream you plan to fish. In the big rivers you can probably use your lake boat, but in the smaller streams, you'll need something smaller and lighter, like a "Jon" boat (flat bottom aluminum) or maybe just waders.

The next problem is where do you look for the fish when you get there.

Streams have long been known to produce the tastiest catfish, much more flavorful than the pond-raised fish. If it is catfish you are after then trot lines and set hooks are the methods most commonly used.

The channel catfish (sometimes called blue) is probably the most sought-after of the catfish native to our streams and can be caught on trot lines and set hooks baited with everything from minnows to soap.

For channel catfish, string your trot line parallel to the bank. Look for the banks where the willow trees overhang the water. Also string lines across the mouths of any sloughs or lakes that empty into the stream.

If the moon is full, set the lines shallow and run them several times throughout the night. On a dark moon, set them deep and run them less often.



Set the lines across the stream just below the sandbars in the deep holes. Bait it with live bream and weight it heavy.

Bream are by far the most plentiful game fish to be found in our streams. They can be caught in nearly every part of the stream.

Fishing from the bank or boat with a cane pole baited with worms or minnows can produce a sackful before you know it.

A favorite place for bream is the steep clay banks just below the sandbars.

If you are fishing from a boat, try fishing for bream with a fly rod and a small popping bug. Cast it along the clay banks and get ready for some fishing fun at its best.

Crappie (white perch) can also be found in our streams in large numbers. Minnow or jigs are the best bait for these fine fish.

Look for crappie in the tree tops that have fallen in the water. Also look around the steep, clay banks where the water eddies, or appears to run upstream.

Log jams are also good places to find crappie.

If the stream is high and muddy, move back into the sloughs and lakes that empty into the stream in search of crappie.

If bass, the most glamorous of our game fish, is your quarry, the streams can offer quite a challenge. Our streams offer both the largemouth and spotted varieties, and both can be caught using the

same lures and tackle used on the lakes. The trick is find them!

Look for bass where the water is swift, and in the many sloughs and lakes that join the stream.

In the swift water, cast behind anything that would slow the current, behind logs, treetops, roots, any place a bass can wait in ambush for an unsuspecting meal to pass by.

Also, look for the dark spots on the sandbars. They are usually caused by a submerged log or stump causing a small hole to wash out. You'd be surprised how large a bass can hide in these small spots.

The drop-off at the end of the sandbar is also a good place to look for bass.

The sloughs and lakes along the stream are also prime bass country, especially during the spring spawn. The only problem is that every place looks so good you don't know where to cast first!

When fishing a stream, keep an eye out for cypress trees away from the bank, trees that are apparently just out in the woods. Could be they are on the bank of a small lake that practically no one knows about. It could be that secret "honey" hole you've been looking for.

A word of caution. If you are used to fishing out of a large boat and find yourself having to use a small one for stream fishing, be wary of sudden moves — they can throw you before you know it.

Also, if you are unsure of the dependability of your motor, do most of your fishing upstream from your launching point. It is much easier to paddle downstream than upstream!

COFFEE CUP



Ken Jumel's retirement gets standing ovation

Ken Jumel, retired director of employee benefits, was roasted and toasted by a packed house at the Neches Station assembly room March 11.

Since Jumel retired late last year and his wife, Ory, had undergone surgery, the festivities were postponed from earlier in the year.

Speakers told of Jumel's prowess at

duck hunting, baseball and snoring. He was initially hired as a pipefitter's helper in Baton Rouge and also to play third base on Walter Bagot's semi-pro baseball team off hours.

Pay in the 1930s was a far cry from current wage scales. Jumel collected 31 cents an hour. And conditions weren't very good, either.

"I did the work," Jumel said. "That 31 cents was earned. I remember the snakes and spiders I encountered installing pipes to houses."

Ken Jumel Jr. (top left) led the standing ovation Jumel got from the audience when he was introduced to receive his gifts — a new fishing rod and reel and a fishing net filled with \$300 (top right).



FAREWELL TO RUTH — Ruth Stine, retired executive secretary, was honored at two pre-retirement receptions Jan. 27 and Feb. 26. The first was a small gathering given by employees in corporate and finance, where Ruth had been an executive secretary and with whom she worked closely when she was Jerry Stokes' and Tom Page's secretary. Gifts included a scrapbook (right) signed by hundreds of friends, a dried bouquet and a farewell plaque. The second reception was held in the test kitchen at the main office. She was given a large amount of money to help defray the cost of her long-awaited trip to Europe. Among the many guests was Chairman of the Board Floyd Smith.





DUAL RETIREMENTS — Annie J. Hebert, PBX operator, and Fred Parent, consumer service representative, both of Port Arthur, were honored on their retirements at a reception Jan. 29. Both were given gifts stuffed with cash — Parent a wallet and Hebert a terrarium. Nearly identical red, white and blue decorated cakes bearing the Gulf States emblem were made for the event. (from Sue Williams)



CASH COW — Joey Heaton, son of Carrol Joe Heaton, serviceman in Huntsville, won three trophies at the Kiwanis Junior Livestock Show in Huntsville. Heaton picked up the Gain Trophy — the animal put on 580 pounds in 186 days — the Outstanding Herdsman Trophy and the second place trophy in Showmanship. He sold the cow for \$1,200. Heaton has been active in the 4-H Club for six years and has entered the Kiwanis contest the last five years. (from Karen Morley)

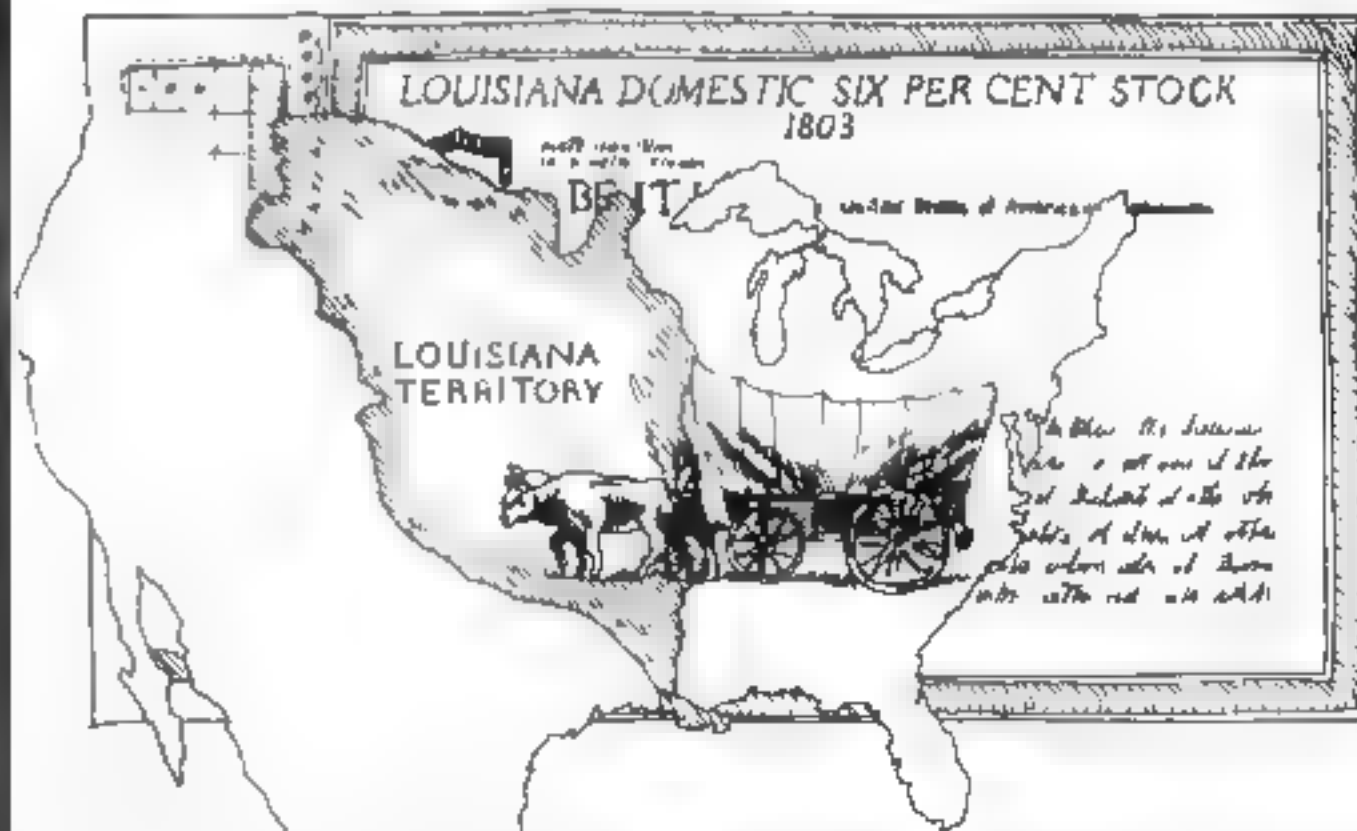


CLIFF'S KIDS — Two children of Cliff Et'enne, laborer in the Lake Charles storeroom, have reached educational milestones. Lennett Fay (left) graduated from Washington High School in May, and Donald Ray completed his U.S. Navy Basic Training in Great Lakes, Ill., and attended radio school in San Diego. He is now stationed in Monterey, Cal. (from Johnnie Stelly)



SO LONG, BILL — Bill Richard, formerly Western Division manager promoted to Lake Charles Division manager, was honored at a luncheon given by the women in the Conroe office. From left to right are: Frances Elliott, Billie Schaefer, Rose Grisham, Martha West and Richard. Not pictured are Nina Wiley, Mrs. Richard, Jean Courville and Doris Harts. (from Frances Elliott)

They Made A Deal For You



President Jefferson purchased Louisiana. Napoleon also sold Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, North and South Dakota. America got parts of Colorado, Wyoming and most of Minnesota. At 4 cents an acre, that was a deal. Much of the \$15 million for the Louisiana Territory came from Americans taking stock in their country. Now it's your turn. Join your Payroll Savings Plan. You accumulate savings year after year and America saves too. Now that's a deal, Call LaMelle Triplett (extension 3150) for details.



THE GULF STATES MAN — Stan Kendall, son of Sue Kendall (above), consumer service advisor in Beaumont, made a Reddy Kilowatt plaque from colored rice and beans for a fifth grade art assignment. Stan got the idea from a comic book, Mrs. Kendall said. He calls Reddy Kilowatt "The Gulf States Man," she said. The teacher apparently liked the project — Stan got an "A."



GRADUATING GAUTHIER — Martin Gauthier, son of Lester Gauthier, senior engineering assistant in Lafayette, has accepted a scholarship to the University of Southwestern Louisiana. The younger Gauthier has maintained a perfect 4.0 grade point average during his senior year, serves as senior class president at Maurice High School and was voted "Most Scholarly" by his peers. He plans to major in engineering. (from Mona Burris)



CREME DE KREWE — Mary Burt Dugas, wife of Denis Dugas, right-of-way man in Lafayette, represented the Age of Progress in the Krewe of Iberians 29th annual Mardi Gras Ball Feb. 14. Mrs. Dugas' costume represents the future. (from Mona Burris)



HAPPY GRANDPAPPY — Andy Anderson, natural gas consultant to Varibus, and his wife Rowena were treated to a grandbaby shower April 9. The couple received a generous supply of baby goods with which to spoil the new arrival. "He's not even here and he's spoiled," Anderson said at the shower. His prediction was correct — an 8 pound, 5 ounce boy, Jeremy, was born April 25 to the Andersons' daughter, Mary Bertrand, in Austin. Andy Anderson is also the father-in-law of Charlotte Anderson, executive stenographer in corporate and finance.



BOTANICAL GARDENS — Nancy Nesbitt, departmental clerk in order processing, maintains an extensive collection of plants around her desk on the windowless second floor of the Main Office. "It helps bring the outside in," she said. Included in the selection are coleus, jude, friendship ivy, "regular ivy, and I don't know what they call that." The gardens may yet see sunlight, since the order processing group will be moving to the fifth floor. Mrs. Nesbitt is hoping for a window near her desk. No such luck. Her fifth floor sunlight is also fluorescent.

When you have any news or a story you think would be interesting to other Gulf Staters, contact the reporter nearest to you, or write or call the **PLAIN TALKS** editor, Mike Ross, in Beaumont. Notify **PLAIN TALKS** reporters of any event that is happening in your area that the magazine should cover. A complete list of reporters and their locations is given below. If any persons named are no longer with the company or no longer active reporters, please contact Mike Ross. Persons wishing to become **PLAIN TALKS** reporters should also contact the editor. We can never have too many reporters.

Reporters

BATON ROUGE: Margie Force (T&D); T. Boone Chaney (T&D), Melanie Hima (T&D), Jack Gautreaux (T&D), James W. Bello (T&D), GERALYN WILLIAMS (Gas), Opal Temple (Acct.), Robert Graves (Storeroom), Susan Wilks, Debbie Lynn (Engr.), Linda Nelson (Meter), Debbie Reeves (Sub.)

BEAUMONT: Bill Toups (S.C.), Carolyn Mott (T&D), Ann Ogden, Edy Matthews, Dorothy Nowell, Carolyn Thaggard, Gina Collins.

CALVERT: Betty Dowell.

CLEVELAND: Pat Jones, Edd Mitchell.

CONROE: Frances Elliot, Bobbie Burke.

DENHAM SPRINGS: Lenelle Juban.

GONZALES: Billie Fortenberry.

HUNTSVILLE: Karen Morley.

JENNINGS: Earl Mayfield.

LAFAYETTE: Mona Burris.

LAKE CHARLES: Johnnie Stelly (T&D), Janet Followay.

LA. STATION: Marilyn Nicholson.

LEWIS CREEK: D. W. Rutherford.

MADISONVILLE: Jean Tinsley.

NAVASOTA: Betty Dickschat.

NECHES STATION: Gene Russell.

NELSON STATION: Martha Caldwell.

NEW CANEY: Diana Winkelmann, Paul Mosley.

ORANGE: Doris Womack.

PORT ALLEN: Adele Vasseur.

PORT ARTHUR: Sue Williams, Lorraine Dunham (S.C.)

SABINE STATION: Darlene Faires, Fred Kressman.

SOMERVILLE: Mary Brock.

SULPHUR: Pearl Burnett.

WILLOW GLEN: Dora Landaiche, James Veatch.

WOODVILLE: Alene Cole.

ZACHARY: Myra Ponthier.

NAME THE BABY

Recent developments in the Maxey household have made it necessary for Bill and Debbie to consider a name for their son and/or daughter. So far, Bill has proposed such gems as "Erasmus," "Emmett," "Zorba" and "Hey, You!" Obviously, Bill needs your help.

CONTEST RULES

1. Enter a name that you feel would be appropriate for young Maxey. Although this contest is not intended to tell Bill what people think of him, we certainly do not wish to inhibit creative thinking. So, if you think "Butch" would be a good name for his daughter, put it down.
2. Enter first and middle names only. We will assume that Bill is the father and the lad's last name will be Maxey. Enter as many names as you wish. Remember, the more names you enter, the greater your chances of winning. Besides, Bill may eventually use all the names before he leaves when in get CAUTION: Be very careful about entering the name of a boss, regardless of how badly you need the "name."

YOU CAN'T LOSE!
— if you know

NAME THE NEW MAXEY— Bill Maxey, tax accountant, and his wife, Debbie, are expecting a baby in September. Bill's coworkers have decided to help him choose a name for the new arrival — the Maxey's first child. Dozens of possibilities have been written on the second floor list in the Main Office. Leading candidates in the male division are: Genghis, Attila, Bozo, Zorfley Ebzan and Sledge. Among the female names are: Ernestine, Debilla, Ermentrude, Ulrike, Charmin (don't squeeze) and Richard Sue. *Plain Talks'* favorite is Jerusha Ann, a longtime family name in the Wynne clan. Its origin is II Kings, Chapter 15, Verse 33. Despite the flood of suggestions, Maxey said he still hasn't found the right one yet. More names are welcomed.



BRAINY BRADLEY — Mark Thomas Bradley, son of Victor H. Bradley Jr., shift supervisor at Neches Station, has graduated magna cum laude from South Park High School in Beaumont. He is a member of the National Honor Society with a 95.46 per cent average. He plans to study electrical engineering at Lamar University. (from Gene Russell)



SHE LOVES HER WORK — Katy Leland, daughter of Don Leland, engineer in Lake Charles T&D, visited her father in early May in the Lake Charles Service Center. Miss Leland was not always as passive as shown in the picture, her father reported. "She looked around and saw everybody," he said. "Everybody played with her." Some consider Katy to look like her father — other say she looks like her mother, Myna. Time will tell. Katy was born March 26, weighing 8 pounds, ½ ounce. (from Johnnie Stelly)

RECIPES

Annie's Comida Mexicana

by Priscilla Whitson
Lake Charles

Priscilla Whitson, the new consumer service advisor in Lake Charles, goes by "Pris" or "Annie."

"Priscilla is too formal for my personality," she said. "But I don't mean Pris to be short for 'prissy' either."

Her intensely curly hairdo and her nomadic independence caused coworkers to give her the "Annie" nickname — after the Little Orphan.

She joined Gulf States Dec. 8, fulfilling her life's ambition of being a home economist.

"One of my earliest memories of GSU was when I was four years old," she said. "The home service girls conducted week-long cooking schools at the Pitt Theater in Lake Charles. My mother is a home economist, so she attended these demonstrations regularly and often took me with her."

"I can remember the home service girls baking banana nut bread and giving away free cartons of 7-Up."

Pris was born in Kingsville, Tex., but moved to Lake Charles when she was two years old. She moved to Hollywood at age 13 and was graduated from Sulphur High School and McNeese State University. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Home Economics in Business and Homemaking.

In addition to cooking, Pris sews nearly all of her clothes, enjoys macrame and rug making. She has made a couch, a chair and most of her home's decorations. Every chance she gets, Pris takes for the outdoors — sports, and camping in particular.

Her love of Mexican food dates back to when her parents were trying to wean her from baby food. She hated the "table" food served to adults — with the notable exception of Mexican food.

These recipes are Pris' mother's and have been in the family for years.



MEXICAN CHILI SAUCE

2 small onions, chopped
1 clove garlic, mashed
2 Tbsps. olive oil
1 Tbsp. flour
½ cup chili powder
¼ tsp. oregano
¼ tsp. ground cumin
1 tsp. salt
1 cup tomato puree

Brown onions and garlic in olive oil until golden in a saucepan. Mix in remaining ingredients as smoothly as possible and cook over low heat 10 minutes. Add water to thin the sauce. This sauce is used for making enchiladas and tacos. Makes 1 pint.

TACOS

1 large onion, chopped
1 clove garlic, mashed
3 Tbsps. shortening
1 lb. ground beef
1 tsp. salt
2 Tbsps. chili powder
¼ tsp. ground cumin
12 taco shells
Mexican Chili Sauce
½ lb. Cheddar cheese, grated
1 head lettuce, shredded
2 tomatoes, chopped

Cook onion and garlic in shortening until golden. Stir in ground beef, salt, chili powder and cumin; cook until nicely browned. If mixture looks very dry, stir in a little water. At serving time spoon beef mixture into each taco shell; add a spoonful each of Mexican Chili Sauce, grated cheese and lettuce; and top with chopped tomatoes. Makes 12 tacos.

ENCHILADAS

1 large onion, chopped
1 clove garlic, mashed
3 Tbsps. shortening
1 lb. ground beef
1 tsp. salt
2 Tbsps. chili powder
¼ tsp. ground cumin
Shortening for frying
12 tortillas
Mexican Chili Sauce
½ lb. Cheddar cheese, grated

Brown onion and garlic in shortening until golden. Stir in ground beef, salt, chili powder and cumin. Cook until browned. In another skillet, heat shortening for frying. Dip each tortilla into hot oil, then immediately into Mexican Chili Sauce. Spoon meat mixture into tortilla and top with some of grated cheese. Roll tortillas up like diplomas and arrange in baking dish. Spoon extra Mexican Chili Sauce on top of enchiladas, then sprinkle on remaining grated cheese. Bake at 350 degrees 15 minutes. Serves 6. Note: Enchiladas may be prepared ahead and frozen.

FRUITY SANGRIA

One 6 oz. can frozen grape juice concentrate
One 6 oz. can frozen pink lemonade concentrate
4½ cups water
1 pint club soda
1 orange, sliced
1 lemon, sliced
1 banana, sliced

Stir concentrated juices and water. Chill 3 hours. Just before serving, add club soda and sliced fruit. Serve over ice. Makes 8 one cup servings.

CHILES RELLENOS CON QUESO (Chiles Stuffed with Cheese)

½ lb. Cheddar cheese
Two 8 oz. cans peeled green chiles
Fat for deep-frying
4 eggs
¼ cup flour
½ tsp. salt

Cut cheese into 16 rectangular pieces. Rinse chiles in cold water, remove seeds and cut into 16 strips. Wrap a strip around each piece of cheese. Heat fat to 375 degrees. Separate yolks from whites of eggs. Beat yolks with flour and salt. Beat egg whites until they hold a shape, then mix gently into yolk mixture. Using a spoon, dip each chile-wrapped cheese into batter, then fry until brown. Serve immediately. Serves 6.

HUEVAS RANCHEROS (Eggs, Ranch Style)

1 large onion, chopped
1 clove garlic, mashed
2 Tbsps. olive oil
One 1 lb. 14 oz. can tomatoes, diced
1 Tbsp. chili powder
1 Tbsp. salt
6 eggs
1/3 cup chopped ripe olives

Cook onions and garlic in olive oil until onions are limp. Add tomatoes, chili powder and salt. Cook very slowly 10 minutes. Pour sauce into a 12 x 7½ inch baking dish. Drop eggs lightly on top of sauce. Sprinkle olives between eggs. Bake at 350 degrees 15 to 20 minutes until eggs are set. Serves 4 to 6.

PLAIN TALKS

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greatest effect on the size of your bill. Start by giving your attic the R-19 test. Check to see if you have the blown-in or batt type. Measure the thickness. Then call an insulation contractor or dealer, or GSU. You'll learn if your home is properly insulated.

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Your electric bill. We'll help you make the least of it.



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